

News Release



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Dworshak Fish Hatchery Receives Hatchery of the Year and Environmental Leadership Awards

GREEN INNOVATION RESULTS IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY SAVINGS

The Dworshak Fish Hatchery recently received the Department of Interior Hatchery of the Year Award and the Region 1 Environmental Leadership Award for Green Innovation for projects implemented through the BPA Energy Efficiency Program in 2012.

The Dworshak Fish Hatchery rears and releases 2.1 million summer steelhead smolts, 1.5 million spring Chinook smolts, and 300K coho salmon smolts annually to fulfill various mitigation and restoration efforts. The hatchery has made significant infrastructure improvements since the spring of 2010. The majority of these changes have integrated energy and water efficiency improvements while also maintaining or improving fish rearing conditions. The changes have saved an average of 8,621,000 kilowatt hours per year in 2011 and 2012 when compared to 2010, and over 19,000,000 kilowatt hours per year when compared to 2006. Because hydroelectric power is supplied to Dworshak Hatchery from the Dworshak Dam, any energy saved at the hatchery is then available for use elsewhere with direct cost avoidance to BPA. As a result of these projects, enough clean hydroelectric power was made available for distribution across the grid to provide the annual power requirements of approximately 1,500 homes.

“The infrastructure improvements have not only generated significant energy savings, but have also created greater flexibility for hatchery fish production” says Steve Rodgers, acting Complex Manager at Dworshak Fish Hatchery. “Egg capacity in the incubation room has been doubled, reducing the use of costly electric boilers. Other improvements include replacing and rerouting water pipelines to increase efficiency, and installing variable frequency drives on hatchery pumps”.

Infrastructure improvements were made possible through partnerships with Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP) program. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Nez Perce Tribe jointly operate the facility.

Approximately \$600,000 was made available through BPA’s Energy Efficiency program to fund these projects. As a result of these successes, Dworshak Hatchery employees are now assisting other facilities in applying

similar operational and infrastructure reviews in an effort to improve efficiency. They are also currently working with BPA's Energy Efficiency team to perform additional energy savings projects at Dworshak Hatchery.

*The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit **www.fws.gov***

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